IN THE CLAIMS:

The pending claims are set forth below and have been amended and/or cancelled, without prejudice, where noted:

1-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) Monofilaments or stretched tapes, unwoven or woven into raffia prepared from long chain branched~~a~~ metallocene-produced polyethylene resin ~~having long chain branches~~.

10. (Previously Presented) The monofilaments or stretched tapes of claim 9 wherein the metallocene component is a tetrahydroindenyl.

11. (Previously Presented) The monofilaments or stretched tapes of claim 9 produced by the steps comprising:

(a) providing a metallocene-produced medium density polyethylene resin having long chain branches;

(b) producing a film from the polyethylene resin of step (a);

(c) orienting the film obtained from step (b) by stretching;

(d) cutting the film of step (b) into strips; and

(e) optionally, annealing the stretched film.

12. (Previously Presented) The monofilaments or stretched tapes of claim 11 wherein the stretching is carried out at a temperature from about 10 to about 70° C lower than the melting temperature of the resin.

13. (Previously Presented) The monofilaments or stretched tapes of claim 12 wherein the stretched film is annealed at a temperature of from about 5 to about 10° C lower than the stretching temperature.

14. (Previously Presented) The monofilaments or stretched tapes of claim 11

wherein the stretching is performed by passing the film over a first and second roller and the ratio of the roller's velocities is in the range of from about 5 to about 7.

15. (Previously Presented) The monofilaments or stretched tapes of claim 14 wherein the stretching is carried out at a temperature from about 10 to about 70° C lower than the melting temperature of the resin and the stretched film is annealed at a temperature of from about 5 to about 10° C lower than the stretching temperature.

16. (Withdrawn) A process for preparing stretched tapes that comprises the steps of: (a) providing a metallocene-produced medium density polyethylene resin having long chain branches; (b) producing a film from the polyethylene resin of step (a); (c) orienting the film obtained from step (b) by stretching; (d) cutting the film of step (b) into strips; and (e) optionally, annealing the stretched tapes.

17. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 16 wherein step (d) is performed before step (c).

18. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 16 wherein step (c) is performed before step (d).

19. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 16 wherein the stretching is carried out at a temperature from about 10 to about 70.degree. C. lower than the melting temperature of the resin.

20. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 19 wherein the stretching is carried out at a temperature from about 15 to about 50.degree. C. lower than the melting temperature of the resin.

21. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 16 wherein the stretching is performed by passing the film over a first and second roller and wherein the ratio of the roller's velocities is in the range of from about 5 to about 7.

22. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 21 wherein the stretching is carried out at a temperature from about 10 to about 70.degree. C. lower than the melting temperature of the resin.

23. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 22 wherein the stretched film is annealed at a temperature of from about 5 to about 10.degree. C. lower than the stretching temperature.

24. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 23 wherein the annealing is carried out while transferring the film from the second stretcher roller to a third roller and wherein the velocity of the third roller is less than that of the second roller.

25. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 23 wherein the stretching is carried out at a temperature from about 15 to about 50.degree. C. lower than the melting temperature of the resin.

26. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 19 wherein the film is annealed at a temperature of from about 5 to about 10.degree. C. lower than the stretching temperature.

27. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 16 wherein the metallocene-produced resin is produced using a tetrahydroindenyl component.